Clan Henderson Society, INC.

September 2025
Quarterly Newsletter,

AN CANACH

President's Quarterly Message—Louis Russell

From the President's Desk

Dear Society Members

We just completed the 2025 Annual General Meeting held at the Seattle Scottish Highland Games and Gathering in Enumclaw, WA. Thanks to Joyce and Bruce Henderson and Team for all the work organizing another successful event. Special thanks to our Chief Alistair Henderson and Madam Audrey for traveling a long distance to attend the annual event. There were many positive comments and those in attendance enjoyed the time together.

Henderson Stone. There was significant discussion of the Henderson Stone and the effort to secure continued access to this important Henderson landmark. The Henderson Stone is an important site linking Clan Henderson to the Scottish Highlands. For a brief history of the Stone, follow the attached link: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henderson_Stone. Access to the stone was established many years ago including a gate and walking path leading to the Stone. Today there is need for repair and it was concluded that Clan Henderson Society should take the responsibility to coordinate the work. In addition, Clan Henderson Society will commit to ongoing maintenance ensuring continued access to this historical site. Vincent Henderson, VP and General Counsel, has agreed to identify and reach out to Scottish legal counsel to gathering guidance ensuring that future generations will continue to enjoy access to this important landmark. Details of the project have not been finalized but it will likely include a new access gate, fencing and an improved walking pathway. It will be necessary to raise funds outside of CHS general budget to finance this project. At the meeting a Henderson Stone Fund was established, and initial pledges were announced. Contact Louis Russell at louis.russell@apcproteins.com if you are interested in supporting this important project. Additional details will be shared as the scope of the project is finalized.

Scholarship Program Endowment Fund. The Clan Henderson Scholarship Program is a tangible way that the Society fulfills its goal of promoting Scottish culture. This past year a total of 15 scholarships were awarded with 5 of the recipients from Australia. Successfully expanding scholarships beyond the US was the result of deliberate efforts on the part of Audrey Trawick, the Scholarship Team and the help of Jeff Henderson, RC Australia. The Scholarship Endowment Fund was established two years ago with the goal of providing sustained financial support and growth of the Scholarship Program. As of July 1, 2025, the Endowment Fund has grown to $61,589. If the historic rate of return continues, and with continued annual contributions of $5,000, the Endowment Fund will reach the initial goal of $125,000 within 5 years and will generate enough income to begin funding the program. I think this represents significant progress toward reaching the goal of sustained funding of the Scholarship Program and it is something that all members can be proud of.

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Clan Henderson members are encouraged to consider supporting the Endowment Fund as part of their annual giving. Contributions can be made from the CHS website: https://www.clanhendersonsociety.com/donate.

Lifetime Membership. A few years ago, the Executive Committee conducted a member survey, and one of the suggestions/comments was mailing a check every year to pay the annual membership fee is troublesome and easily forgotten. And when a member forgets to send in the fee, it creates a extra work and expense for the VP Members to send reminders. To make it easier, a feature allowing automatic annual renewal was created where your credit card is automatically charged the annual membership fee. This has been successful implemented, and many members are taking advantage of this feature. In addition, a few members have inquired about the possibility of a Lifetime Membership. After discussing the option, the Executive Committee consulted our financial advisors and a Lifetime Membership was created. The plan was presented to the CHS Board of Directors and approved in early July. Details are included in Corporate Resolution No. 2025-1 and will soon be posted on the CHS website. Highlights of the Lifetime Membership include:

The Lifetime Membership includes the primary member and spouse and dependent children under the age of eighteen residing in the family home.

A onetime fee for a Lifetime Membership is $500. Upon death of the primary member, it may be passed to the spouse but not transferred to any other person.

The principal (the one-time fee) will be deposited in an investment fund. Income from the investment will pay the annual membership. Eventually, the principal will remain with CHS and contribute to the annual budget. Benefits of a Lifetime Membership include:

- *The one-time contribution of $500 can be included in your itemized tax deductions.
- A Lifetime Membership would be an excellent gift for a child or grandchild.
- You don't have to remember to pay annual dues.
- You will not be affected by future increases in annual dues.
- A Lifetime Membership establishes a legacy ensuring continued support of CHS for future generations.

With current annual dues at $25, it will take 20 years for the Lifetime Membership to "break even".

*Consult your tax advisor concerning the tax treatment of this membership fee.

To summarize: there are now three ways to pay your annual dues:

Annual dues can be paid by sending a check to our treasurer or from the CHS website.

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Annual dues can be automatically paid with a credit card that is left on file at the CHS website.

A Lifetime Membership can be purchased.
Currently, Katherine Emerson, CHS Webmaster, is working to include the Lifetime Membership as an option on the membership page of our website.

Election of Officers. Elected officers serve two-year terms with elections held in even numbered years at the Annual General Meeting. The 2026 AGM will be held at the Panama City Beach Scottish Festival, March 6-7, 2026. Immediate Past President Leon Hicks has agreed to chair the Nominating Committee and begin the process of identifying a slate of candidates for consideration. Additional information on the election is included in this issue of the An Canach. Contact Leon if you are willing to serve on the Nominating Committee, leonhicks365@outlook.com. Contact Louis Russell if you are interested in serving in an elected position, louis.russell@apcproteins.com. Elected offices and current incumbents include:

President, Louis Russell (limited to two consecutive terms, currently serving second term)
VP Operations, Mark Henderson
VP Membership, Suzanne Emmerson
VP Genealogy and DNA, Greg Lamberson
VP and Legal Counsel, Vincent Henderson II
Treasurer, Carol Fosser
Recording Secretary, Sue Hoffman

Thanks again to everyone for your support of Clan Henderson Society. I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable remainder of summertime.

Louis Russell
President

LONGEVITY

South East	6	ELLIS	H. Renee	Newport	NC	USA	**1988**	35
Central	184	SHAFFER III	L. Blaine	Omaha	NE	USA	**1990**	35
Central	214	HOLBROOK	Lloyd	Goodland	KS	USA	**1990**	35
Central	334	HENDERSON	William S.	Sunrise Beach	MO	USA	**1990**	35
Great Lakes	2441	HENDERSON	Ray	Clyde	OH	USA	**1999**	25
Great Lakes	2457	HENDERSON	James P.	Columbus	OH	USA	**1999**	25
South West	2489	COX	Bette F.	Highlands Ranch	CO	USA	**2000**	25
South Pacific	2507	ADAMS	Dana J.	San Diego	CA	USA	**2000**	25
Far South	2574	BUEHLER	Shirley Henderson	Stillwater	OK	USA	**2000**	25
South East	2653	RUTHERFORD	Douglas K.	Grayson	GA	USA	**2000**	25
North East	3725	HENDERSON	David E.	Hanover	NH	USA	**2010**	15
South East	3732	WATTS	David Henderson	Apalachicola	FL	USA	**2010**	15
South Pacific	4909	HENDERSON	Paula	Canyon Country	CA	USA	**2019**	5
Central	4914	HENDERSON	Lee	St. Louis	MO	USA	**2019**	5
Far South	5132	MILLER	James	La Vernia	TX	USA	**2020**	5

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

Great Lakes	5537	HENDERSON	Joshua	Hope	IN	USA
South East	5538	HENDERSON	Joshua	Easley	SC	USA
South East	5539	HENDERSON	Drew	Murrayville	GA	USA
Pacific	5540	HENDERSON	Lee	Monterey	CA	USA
Central	5541	STEPHENS	Suzanne	St Louis	MO	USA
Great Lakes	5542	HENDERSON	Ralph	Williamsburg	OH	USA
Independent	5543	MILES	Roxanne	Woodstock	ON	CAN
South East	5544	HENDERSON	Jonathon	Spartanburg	SC	USA
South East	5545	HENDERSON	Dwight	Talking Rock	GA	USA
North Pacific	5546	SNARR	Brian	Bremerton	WA	USA
North East	5547	HENDERSON	Graeham	Westbrook	ME	USA
North Pacific	5548	RIOUX	Jason	Helena	MT	USA
North Pacific	5549	KOSOFF	Brittain	Auburn	WA	USA
North Pacific	5550	DESSELLE	Colleen (Kennedy)	Olympia	WA	USA
North Pacific	5551	RENFROE	Robert Gordon	Federal Way	WA	USA
North Pacific	5552	HENDERSON	Martin Tyler	Steilacoom	WA	USA
North Pacific	5553	BRYSON	Zachariah	Auburn	WA	USA
North Pacific	5554	EASTON	Mindy	Shelton	WA	USA
North Pacific	5555	HENDERSON IV	Arthur F. (Butch)	Seattle	WA	USA
North Pacific	5556	HENDERSON	John D. (Jay)	Wilsonville	OR	USA

AGM 2025

As ordered by the Chief to 'Gather the Clan', we met at the Seattle Scottish Highland Games in Enumclaw, WA on July 26-27. We were honored with the presence of Clan Chieftain Alistair Henderson of Fordell and Lady Audry. They attended all the way from Queensland, Australia! The weekend started Friday evening with a meet & greet at the host hotel. We then went to the festival grounds for the Call to the Clans. Saturday morning was the official business meeting and AGM held via Zoom. The day continued at the festival grounds with the Clan gathering in the Clan Henderson tent. For the Opening Ceremonies, we were afforded the honor of leading the Parade of Clans as it was our AGM. We followed Her Majesty Mary Queen of Scots and her Royal Court. What fun! As is the tradition of Clan Henderson, we enlisted the services of the Kenmore and District Pipe Band to lead us around the grounds for a walk about. It was amazing how the crowd steps aside for a pipe band! Saturday evening we had a lovely Clan dinner at a local winery. Chief Alistair presented Order of the Chief awards to Art and Pat Henderson, recognizing them for their years of service as supporters and convenors for CHS. Bruce Henderson was also honored for his support of the Society. His efforts are mostly behind the scenes in a support role but nonetheless important and worthy of recognition. As Convenors and Regional Commissioners, we can't do what we do without the support of others. Christian Henderson received the Order of MacEanruig for his unwavering support of the Society and its mission. Sunday brought another great day talking to Henderson's stopping by the tent and signing up as new members. Thank you for your support of Clan Henderson! It was a good weekend of fellowship and rekindling friendships.

Pat and Art Henderson receiving their well-deserved Order of the Chief awards.

Bruce Henderson receiving his Order of the Chief award

Christian Henderson received Order of MacEanruig

Saturday walk-about.

Gather the Clan!

The Henderson's Were Here!

The sun shone brightly on this clear July day (the 19th of the month, to be exact), there was a beautiful breeze blowing through the pastoral fields in Florence, Massachusetts, and for the first time in many a year...Clan Henderson was represented at the Glasgow Lands Scottish Festival! We were welcomed with open arms and even given honors at the *Calling of The Clans* during the opening ceremonies.

My wife, Sue, and I convened the Festival as the inaugural event of the 2025 season, and is the first representation of the North East Region at events in quite some time.

We ran into a few small issues (as this was our first foray into Convening), such as not having any flag poles or even worse, not having a pole for our Gonfalon, though as you can see by the picture of our marching into the *Calling of The Clans*...we improvised, we adapted, and we overcame!

In an unexpected turn of events as we lined up to enter the Parade Field, we were even "invited" to march in front of the Campbell's...though we *did* ensure that none of them were carrying a dirk before doing so.

The day was full of exciting events, with a special emphasis on Pipe and Drum Corps. Unfortunately, the photos of those events did not translate correctly and could not be uploaded to share here. We did have a large contingent of visitors to the tent and well over 30 young lads and lasses came through to get a Henderson stamp in their Event Passports!

We were extremely blessed to be joined by a very special Guest Convenor for the day, Clan Henderson Society's own Treasurer...Carol Fosser! I can't thank Carol enough for agreeing to be a part of this event and to help keep me from going off the rails in my first attempt at these sorts of things.

This event would also not have been possible without the help of Barbara Pamboukes of Portsmouth, NH...she had in the past, thankfully, saved all of the various and sundry items that a Convenor would need to conduct a proper event, and was gracious enough to offer all of it up for the North East Region to use as we enter a new era of participation at any Scottish or Gaelic event that comes our way.

With the Glasgow Lands Scottish Festival in the books, we have two more events lined up for this year, to which all are encouraged to attend, and we will be adding more in the years to come. Please come visit us at the following events:

- ***Quechee Highland Games*** - on August 23, 2025 in Hartford (Quechee), VT
  Website: https://quecheegames.org/

- ***The 50th Annual NH Highland Games & Festival*** - September 19-21, 2025 at the Loon Mountain Ski Resort in Lincoln, NH
  Website: https://nhscot.org/highland-games-nh/

Point of interest: We are honored to have some very special members of the Clan Henderson Society joining us at ***The 50th Annual NH Highland Games & Festival*** in September, to include: (1) Clan Leader, and at least (2) Elected Officials...but the trick is, you will have to attend this years event to find out who they are!

Writers Note: I have created a Newsletter aimed specifically at the North East Region, aptly named the "Nor'Easter" (those who are familiar with the weather in the North East will understand the title), which is aimed more at the goings on in our region of the CHS (though all who are interested can contact me to get on the mailing list). In it, I have put out a *Call to Arms*, as it were, to start generating interest in my clansfolk in regards to the direction of CHS as a whole and the North East Region in particular.

The North East Region is in need of the following positions:

- **Convenors** - All are welcome to help with this, but primarily we could use at least one per state.
- **Bodyguards** - We currently have no representation in the guard.
- **Regional Chaplain** - The Society is expanding this position so that there is at least one per region in addition to the Clan Chaplain.
- **Promoters** - Quite simply, these are any individuals who would be willing to represent the clan at events which are not necessarily requiring a sanction or large presence, showing their Clan Henderson pride.

Spread the word and help where you can...the North East Region is back in business, baby!

Slàinte Mhath!

Mike Pollini
Clan Henderson Society
North East Regional Commissioner
Phone: (603) 477-9820
Email: chs.nerc@gmail.com

Election of Officers - 2026

Leon Hicks

Every four years, Clan Henderson Society is required by its Bylaws to elect a new President of the Society. Our method of doing so is to form a Selection Committee to identify a qualified person to fill this role. While there are no term limits on other Executive positions, the Selection Committee also makes recommendations for these positions, especially if there are vacancies to fill.

The election will be held at the next Annual General Meeting where the Committee's recommendations are placed before the membership for consideration.. Other nominations may be made "from the floor".

As the former President of Clan Henderson Society, I am delegated to form a selection committee.. The principal duties of the Committee are to review the list of potential candidates, encourage well qualified potential candidates to apply, and develop a final list for consideration by the Clan Henderson Society.

If you are interested in participating in this important activity, please contact me at your earliest convenience. My email address is: leonhicks365@outlook.com

Cape Fear Scottish Immigration Memorial
Dedication Ceremony – Nov 15, 2025
Leon Hicks

The Cape Fear Scottish Immigration Memorial, sponsored by the Cape Fear Scottish Immigration Memorial Fund, is pleased to announce the completion of the initial phase of construction, and the dedication celebration to be held on Nov 15, 2025 at Brunswick Town State Park, North Carolina. Clan Henderson Society has been a major contributor to this project, and will be honored at this event along with other Scottish heritage societies that have contributed the project. The memorial consists of a cairn, surrounded by ballast stones that were used to stabilize ships bringing passengers to Brunswick Town. Once the passengers were off loaded, and the ships loaded with materials to be shipped back to England, the ballast stones were dumped at the landing site.

The Cape Fear Scottish Immigration Memorial Fund (CFSIMF), in addition to the construction of the Cairn at Brunswick Town, is also developing the Scottish Heritage Trek. The purpose of the Trek is to identify, and recognize sites and communities throughout the state that have significant Scottish heritage. It is also developing a website and database that will provide an interactive map that will enable the storage and visualization of information of these locations. Brunswick Town, the place where Scottish immigrants would have first step foot in North Carolina, is the starting point for Scottish Trek. The Director of the State Park at Brunswick Town, and the NC State Historic Sites Commission, are contemplating a major expansion of the museum at this location in order to provide a more comprehensive explanation of the relevance of this site.

Why did the Scots leave Scotland and choose North Carolina? The reasons the Scots left Scotland are many, but suffice to say an era known as “The Clearances” was perhaps the primary motivator, a time when tenant farmers and herders were pushed off their land to make room for more sheep to feed the woolen industries in England. There were many other factors that contributed to the desire to seek a life in the new world. Some were entrepreneurs who came simply for more economic opportunities, others came for religious purposes (for religious freedom and to escape persecution), and others came to escape the English justice system (especially after the failed Revolution of 1745).

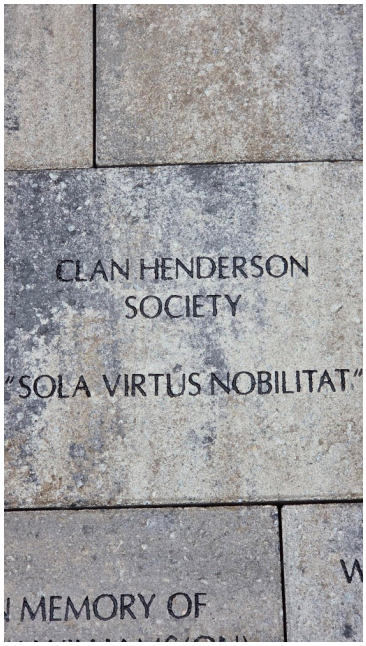
Why North Carolina? The Royal Governor of North Carolina during the early period of the migration was Gabriel Johnston. Governor Johnston, who was born in Southdean Scotland, saw an opportunity to not only help his fellow Scots, but also to settle the “backwater” regions of the Carolinas. In this context he provided relatively large tracts of land to the Scottish immigrants. This in turn generated a large “pull effect” of immigrants. As Scots sent letters home describing their new homes and the availability of land, many more Scots decided to pull up stakes and join their relatives in North Carolina. This influx of Scots consisted primarily of highlanders, but there were many lowlanders who also made the journey, but this is not the entire story…

Many of the Scots who left Scotland initially made their home in Ulster, Northern Ireland. While this move may have satisfied the initial motives for leaving Scotland, religious conflicts, economic decline, and political turmoil eventually manifested themselves there too.

Many of these Scots also made their way to North Carolina, but by a different route. Sometimes referred to as the "Scots Irish", many of these Ulster Scots immigrated to Philadelphia. Along with many other European migrants (primarily Germans), their trek was to become known at the "Great Wagon Road". The Great Wagon Road moved westward to the Harrisburg/Gettysburg area, southward through the Shenandoah Valley, and across the Blue Ridge Mountains into Piedmont and Western NC, SC, and GA.

Both of these migrations played a fundamental role in shaping the culture and politics of the entire country, and the key role in shaping North Carolina. This is a history that few Americans understand, and sadly not even mentioned in social science classes in North Carolina.

The purpose of the Cape Fear Scottish Immigration Memorial Fund is to educate and enlighten those who visit our designated sites, or visit our website. The CFSIMF is extremely grateful to the members of the Clan Henderson Society for their support. All are welcome to the dedication ceremony on November 15th.



July 15, 2025

ONE WAY

554

1992
1993
1994
1995
1996
554

Michelle Brown
6h ·
Just returned from Scot Dance USA's North American Championships in Santa Clara, California and boy did we have a ball! The volunteers who put it on did an excellent job! Brynn danced in a Premiership and placed 6th overall and danced in the North American Championship and came in 4th overall in her age group! We couldn't be more proud. A big thank you to her teacher and mentor, Tori for endless hours of preparing her for this competition.
SCOTDANCE
SCOTDANCE USA
554

Hi Christian and Clan Henderson!

I have just returned from a fabulous weekend in Santa Clara, CA at the 2025 SDUSA National Championships Weekend! On Friday I won the ScotDance USA Scottish National Dance Premiership with straight first places in the 22-26 years group, and won a lovely wooden carving of Half Dome at Yosemite National Park. Then on Saturday I won the 2025 US Championships in the 22 years and over group! This was my 7th consecutive time winning this title and it remains such an honor!

I am very grateful for the support of Clan Henderson in my preparation for this event. All of the scholarship funds I receive go towards paying for my dancing lessons with my wonderful teacher, Linda Armstrong, which got me physically and mentally ready for such a big weekend. I couldn't do it without your support!

I have less than two weeks at home before I take off for Edinburgh to dance in the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, and I can hardly wait to continue my amazing summer of dancing!

Thank you again and all the best,

Beret Dernbach

Possible Scotland Tour

We are CONSIDERING a Clan Henderson Tour to Scotland, Fall 2026. The tour would consist of two phases. You could take either phase or combine both. A Ceilidh will be scheduled in between the two phases. Each phase would cost $3500pp or less. Airfare not included. One phase would be a 5-day INLAND cruise. The second phase would be a 7 day bus of Scotland. Take the following survey, so we can gauge interest and determine if we proceed or not:
https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sv/o0Qx3W0/2026trip

MaryLane Henderson

Upcoming Scottish Games in the Southeast!

Sept. 27 - North Georgia Highland Games, in Clayton, Ga. Many more competitions this year! Ed Hendricks is convening for Clan Henderson Society!

Oct. 4th - Scotland Co. Highland Games - In Laurinburg, NC! The music is always great, and the Vendors are some of the best! Kyle and Susan Henderson are convening for Clan Henderson Society!

Oct. 18th - Crystal Coast Highland Games - in beautiful Beaufort, NC! Bill and Beth Henderson are convening for Clan Henderson Society

Oct. 18&19 - Stone Mountain Highland Games - in Stone Mountain State Park, Ga - Deming Bass along with Harry and Suzanne Keifer are convening.

Nov. 1st - Charleston Scottish Games - Mary Lane Henderson, Ed Hendricks, and Jan Burdette will be convening in beautiful Charleston, SC

The Clan Henderson Society
Chief's Prize
2025

It is with great honor to announce that the recipient of the 2025 Chiefs Prize is Christian Henderson, Regional Commissioner of the South Pacific. This is in recognition of continued support of the Clan Henderson Society and leadership in his region. Christian has been a member of CHS for the past 8 years. During that time, he has been very active serving as a convener, a Bodyguard, and as the Regional Commissioner. He represents CHS as many festivals every year with his tent being recognized as the best display at many events.

Christian served his country in the North Dakota National Guard for over 17 years with 3 M.O.S and last serving as Section Sergeant. In January 2003 serving in the 142nd E.C.B. he was activated and served as Section Sergeant and Combat Lanes Trainer. The 142nd would be the first National Guard Combat Heavy battalion into Iraq with missions to secure bases, provide force protection and to restore infrastructure.

As a recipient of the Chief's Prize, Christian in inducted into the Order of MacEanruig. Please join me in Congratulating Christian on receiving this honor.

Louis Russell
Clan Henderson Society, President

Do you have a Henderson genealogy query?
Just send it to
hendersonclannews@gmail.com
For inclusion in An Canach.

AN CANACH DEADLINES FOR 2025

Publish by:	Deadline to Editor
December 1	November 15

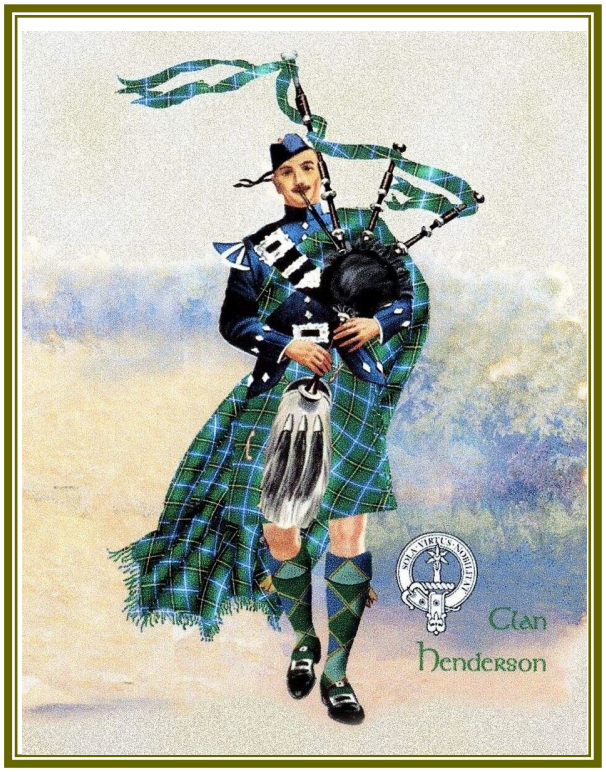
Please send to

hendersonclannews@gmail.com
At any time.
If you are late please let me know how much space (# words and pictures)
you will need and I will plan accordingly.

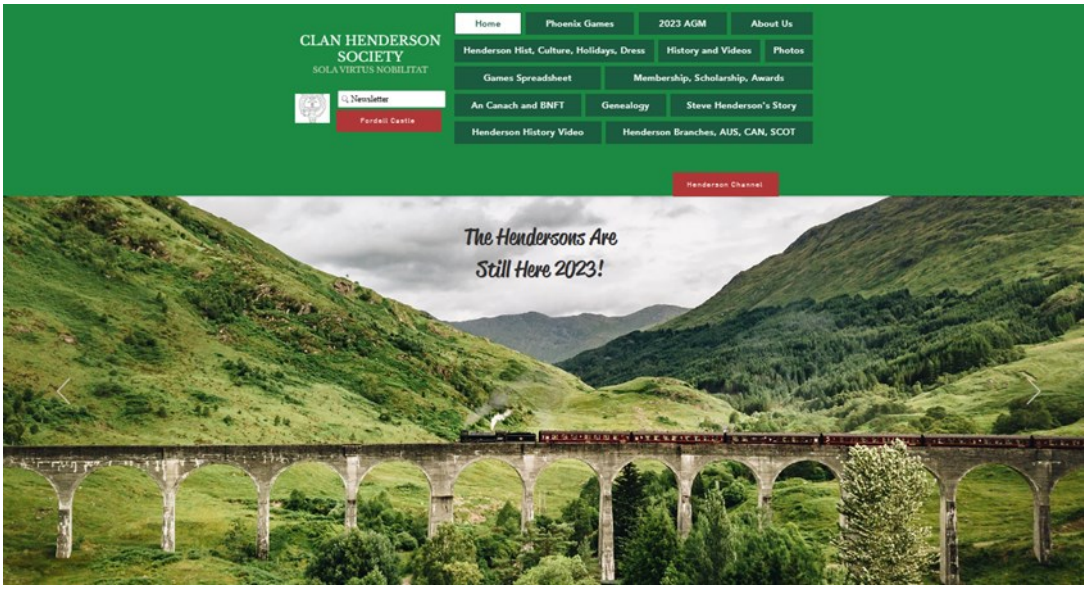
Thanks to all Aye,
Lawrence Henderson, An Canach Editor

Facebook Also has up to date activities of the Henderson Clan see link below:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/clanhendersonsociety/permalink/10160474829769654/?mibextid=Nif5oz



Visit the Clan Henderson Website!
clanhendersonsociety.com



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